

whatever source or upon whatever pretext, to dissolve said Union or to sever said Nation, ought to be resisted with the whole power of the State.

Paramount allegiance to the United States Government.

SEC. 5. *Of allegiance to the United States Government.* That every citizen of this State owes paramount allegiance to the Constitution and Government of the United States, and that no law or ordinance of the State in contravention or subversion thereof can have any binding force.

Public debt; bonds issued under ordinance of Convention of 1868, '68-'69, '69-'70, declared invalid.

SEC. 6. *Public debt; bonds issued under ordinance of Convention of 1868, '68-'69, '69-'70, declared invalid; exception.* The State shall never assume or pay, or authorize the collection of any debt or obligation, express or implied, incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; nor shall the General Assembly assume or pay, or authorize the collection of any tax to pay, either directly or indirectly, expressed or implied, any debt or bond incurred, or issued, by authority of the Convention of the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, nor any debt or bond incurred or issued by the Legislature of the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, either at its special session of the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight, or at its regular sessions of the years one thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight and one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine, and one thousand eight hundred and sixty-nine and one thousand eight hundred and seventy, except the bonds issued to fund the interest on the old debt of the State, unless the proposing to pay the same shall have first been submitted to the people, and by them ratified by the vote of a majority of all the qualified voters of the State at a regular election held for that purpose.

Exception.

Exclusive emoluments, etc.

SEC. 7. *Exclusive emoluments, etc.* No man or set of men are entitled to exclusive or separate emoluments or privileges from the community but in consideration of public services.

The legislative, executive, and judicial powers distinct.

SEC. 8. *The legislative, executive, and judicial powers distinct.* The legislative, executive, and supreme judicial powers of the government ought to be forever separate and distinct from each other.

Of the power of suspending laws.

SEC. 9. *Of the power of suspending laws.* All power of suspending laws, or execution of laws, by any authority, without the consent of the representatives of the people, is injurious to their rights, and ought not to be exercised.

Election free.

SEC. 10. *Election free.* All elections ought to be free.

In criminal prosecutions.

SEC. 11. *In criminal prosecutions.* In all criminal prosecutions every man has the right to be informed of the accusation against him, and to confront the accusers and witnesses with other testi-